## 5097 '99 MAY 21 P1:26

29001 Boyce Rd. Punta Gorda,Fl.33982 May 1,1999

Commissioner Jane E.Henney Parklawn Building, Rm.14-71 5600 Fishers Lane Rockville,MD 20857

Dear Commissioner Henney,

I am a retired physician who is very concerned about the indiscriminate use of antibiotics. In this case, I am writing you about the use of antibiotics in animal feed to enhance growth.

Antibiotics should only be used where they are indicated to combat infection. The widespread, and often inappropriate use of the drugs, has led to increasing resistance. This resistance is now a very serious problem which may cause large scale loss of human life in the near future if more and more resistant bacteria evolve due to widespread application of the drugs. There is absolutely no justification for continuing to use antibiotics in animal feed, in fact, it is dangerous and irresponsible now that the risks are known. I urge you to ban the application of these medically invaluable drugs from inappropriate use in animals.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

Norma B. Hamilton, M.D.

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